

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 CU-02 SAJ-01 ACDA-07  
CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01  
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /078 W  
-----240227Z 107740 /66

R 231419Z DEC 76  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2431  
INFO SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY COLLECTIVE 37  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY ASUNCION  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO  
USIA WASHDC  
CINCPAC  
CINCEUR  
USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM  
DIA WASHDC  
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AFB  
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG  
CSAF WASHDC//AFINA/SSA  
CNO WASHDC//OP-614  
DA WASHDC//DAMI-FII  
OSD/ISA/EUR WASHDC

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FOR POLADS

USIA FOR IOP, IBS, IPS, IEU

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SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY - DECEMBER 23

1. U.S. COVERAGE: FOR THIRD DAY IN ROW, COVERAGE VERY  
LIGHT. LONG ITEM IN KZ ON CONGRESSMEN ACCEPTING KCIA  
PAYMENTS GIVES NECESSARY NEGATIVE FLAVOR AND SHORT  
TASS REPORT IN SAME PAPER ON OIL TANKER BREAKUP OFF NEW

ENGLAND COAST ADDS REQUIRED BAD NEWS. BUT MAIN ITEM HAS POSITIVE CASE.

-- PRAVDA REPORTS ANNOUNCEMENT OF HAROLD BROWN AS CARTER'S CHOICE AS SECDEF AND JUXTAPOSES HIM TO CANDIDATE OF "CIRCLES LINKED WITH MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX", JAMES SCHLESINGER. CONTRAST IS THEN MADE WITH SCHLESINGER'S OPPOSITION TO DETENTE AND ADVOCACY OF MORE MILITARY SPENDING AND CARTER'S PRESS CONFERENCE STATEMENT THAT HE WOULD BE DISAPPOINTED IF HE COULD NOT FULFILL HIS CAMPAIGN PLEDGES OF MILITARY BUDGET REDUCTIONS EVEN IN FIRST YEAR AND WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. FORCES FROM SOUTH KOREA. ON FORMER, TASS NOTES CARTER GAVE NO CONCRETE FIGURES FOR FIRST YEAR REDUCTIONS; AND ON LATTER, THAT HE CHARACTERIZED WITHDRAWALS AS COMING "VERY SLOWLY AND CAREFULLY". ONE CANNOT MISTAKE NOTE OF RELIEF, IF NOT PLEASURE, THAT SCHLESINGER WILL NOT BE SECDEF.

2. OTHER COVERAGE:

--MAJOR DETENTE COMMENTARY BY N.I. LEBEDEV, RECTOR OF MFA'S INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS INSTITUTE, SAYS DETENTE IS OBJECTIVE PROCESS DESPITE SUBJECTIVE FACTORS, HITS OUT AT WESTERN DISTORTIONS (I.E., SOVIET TECHNOLOGICAL WEAKNESS AS CAUSE) AND DISTORTERS, INCLUDING "FORMER USA AMBASSADOR TO USSR F. KOHLER". IMEMO DEPUTY PRIMA KOV BACKS IT UP IN IZVESTIYA WITH REVIEW OF NEW LEBEDEV BOOK ON DETENTE IN ADDITION TO STANDARD POINTS, PRIMA KOV HIGHLIGHTS BREZHNEV'S PERSONAL ROLE AND STATES ARMS RACE "CAN WRECK (SORVAT)" POSITIVE TENDENCIES (SEPTEL).

--ON YUGOSLAVIA, BELGRADE TASS ITEM ON TITO'S REMARKS AS NEW DOCTOR OF MILITARY SCIENCES BEGINS WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STATEMENTS ON HOW YUGOSLAVS LIBERATED THEMSELVES, GIVES PRIDE OF PLACE TO KIND WORDS ON RED ARMY'S ROLE, AND ENDS NEUTRALLY WITH HIS CLAIM THAT YUGOSLAVS HAD REAL ARMY, NOT JUST LIBERATION MOVEMENT.

--IZVESTIYA FRONTPAGE REPORT ON NEW AFGHAN AMBASSADOR POPOL'S CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION TO PODGORNYY DEC 21 SAYS MEETING WAS "WARM, FRIENDLY", QUOTES POPOL TO EFFECT THAT TRADITIONAL GOOD SOVIET-AFGHAN RELATIONS PROVIDE "EXAMPLE OF GOOD NEIGHBORLINESS", AND PODGORNYY TO EFFECT THAT PROCLAMATION OF AFGHAN REPUBLIC BROUGHT THEM TO "NEW, HIGHER STAGE".

--DEC 22 LITGAZ SARCASTICALLY MENTIONED EXCHANGE OF SO-CALLED DISSIDENT BUKOVSKIY FOR CORVALAN IN AN ARTICLE ON LATTER'S RELEASE. THIS ONLY MENTION WE KNOW OF THUS FAR FOR DOMESTIC AUDIENCE THAT CORVALAN RELEASE WAS EXCHANGE.

--PRAVDA "COMMENTATOR'S COLUMN" BY VITALIY KORIONOV DESCRIBES ROLE OF PUBLIC OPINION IN FREEING LUIS

CORVALAN AND REMINDS READERS OF OTHERS STILL LANGUISHING  
IN VARIOUS PRISONS: JAIME PEREZ AND JOSE LUIS MASSERA IN  
URUGUAY, AND MAIDANA, ALCORTE, SOLER AND OTHERS IN PARAGUAY  
(ALL NAMES APPROXIMATE). PRAVDA ALSO HAS ARTICLE BY  
A. TOLKUNOV ON CHILEAN POLICE TORTURE OF LUZ AIRES  
BASED ON HER STORY IN SUNDAY TIMES. TOLKUNOV THEN DESCRIBES  
U.S. PRESSURE ON IBRD TO GRANT 60 MILLION DOLLAR LOAN TO CHILE.

--CENTRAL PRESS HAS REPORT ON EGYPTIAN-SYRIAN  
COMMUNIQUE FOLLOWING MEETING BETWEEN SADAT AND ASAD. PRAVDA  
ARTICLE QUOTES FAHMI PRESS CONFERENCE REMARK THAT SYRIAN  
AND EGYPTIAN LEADERSHIP, "HAVING LEARNED FROM BITTER  
EXPERIENCE OF FORMER UNIFICATION", WILL, THIS TIME, CAREFULLY  
THINK OUT AND PREPARE ALL PRACTICAL STEPS FOR ACHIEVEMENT  
OF UNITY OF POLITICAL LEADERSHIP.

--PRAVDA HAS BIRTHDAY GREETINGS FROM "MEETING  
OF REPRESENTATIVES OF COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PARTIES OF  
ARAB COUNTRIES" AND FROM CC CP LEBANON. FORMER REPEATEDLY,  
LATTER TWICE MENTIONS BREZHNEV AS "HEAD OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE,"  
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AND WISH HIM CONTINUING SUCCESS.  
LATTER MENTIONS ATTEMPTS BY IMPERIALISM TO ESTABLISH  
AMERICAN DOMINATION IN M.E. BOTH MESSAGES CITE BREZHNEV'S  
ROLE IN DEFENDING RIGHTS OF PALESTINIANS WHILE  
NEITHER MESSAGE MENTIONS GENEVA CONFERENCE.

--IZVESTIYA NOTES EXCHANGE OF CABLES BETWEEN  
PODGORNY AND MAURITANIAN PRESIDENT OULD DADDAH ON  
MAURITANIAN NATIONAL DAY.

--PRAVDA HAS AN ARTICLE BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
V. KOROVNIKOV ON POLICE PERSECUTION OF ANTI-APARTHEID  
ACTIVISTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

--PRAVDA AND KZ PRINT BREZHNEV MESSAGE TO GENERAL  
SECRETARY CC CP VIETNAM LE DUAN CONGRATULATING HIM ON  
ACCESSION TO THAT POST AT FOURTH PARTY CONGRESS.

--CENTRAL PRESS ANNOUNCES CONCLUSION OF  
ROCKET TESTS IN PACIFIC.

--PRAVDA HAS TASS SINGAPORE ARTICLE ON "HOPEFUL  
RESULTS" OF TALKS IN TRIPOLI BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF  
GOVERNMENT OF PHILIPPINES AND MORO NATIONAL LIBERATION  
FRONT.

--PARIS TASS PIECE IN PRAVDA REPORTS GISCARD  
INTERVIEW PREDICTING TOUGH YEAR AHEAD FOR FRENCH ECONOMY;  
PRICE RISES EXPECTED.

--PRAVDA REPORTS ON PAGE ONE FROM MADRID OF  
CAMPAIGN TO RELEASE POLITICAL PRISONERS WITHOUT MENTION  
OF GOS ARREST OF CARRILLO AND OTHERS OF PCE LEADERSHIP.

--TASS NEW YORK RECORDS CLOSE OF UNGA IN PRAVDA  
WITH UPBEAT STORY HIGHLIGHTING VICTORIES FOR INITIATIVES  
AND RESOLUTIONS OF USSR AND QUOTES UNGA PRESIDENT  
AMERASINGHE ON POSITIVE RECORD AGAINST COLONIALISM RACISM,

AND APARTHEID AND IN FAVOR OF ENDING ARMS RACE AND DISARMAMENT.  
MATLOCK

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## Message Attributes

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